

Letter from the President.

Looks like spring is coming fast. We should be hiking earlier than last year. Our Spring members meeting will be Sunday, April 18th, with our usual great potluck starting at 5:30 pm.

As we have done the last few years, we will be setting up our cabin hosting schedule at the meeting. We may have 3 days a week at Monarch instead of 2. So bring your calendars. We will be changing signup procedure a little bit. A note will be coming out before the meeting and directions will be posted. For those of you that cannot attend, the schedule will be on the website, so you can sign up if there are any empty slots after the meeting.

For new members and those who need refreshers we will have orientations at Monarch Cabin on June 9th and at Junco Cabin on July 10th+. Please consider how comfortable you are with cabin hosting and, if you need the training, please sign up for cabin hosting dates after the orientation.

Also we ask everyone to sign up for specific trails to host on a weekend day in July and August. Remember any time you hike one of the National Forest Trails in the county all you need to do is wear your T-Shirt or Volunteer Badge, and you are hosting on the trail. We would like everyone to fill out a trail report on the website for each hike they take. We will be sending out instructions on how to do this. If everyone fills out a report, we will then be able to check a trail status before hiking. You can also fill out reports for any trail in the county including those in Rocky Mountain National Park.

We will be having orientation hikes again in July and August. These hikes are mainly so new people can become familiar with some of the trails. But, as usual, anyone can go. We will need volunteers to lead these hikes.

We are planning a couple of bird hikes: one in mid-May to Arapaho National Wildlife, and one up the North Inlet trail in Rocky Mountain National Park. I have been doing a nesting survey along the latter trail for the Colorado Breeding Bird Survey, and last spring I had around 40 species of birds at different times during the breeding season.

Again this year we will do some flower identification walks, probably in July.

We had a much better turn out last for our trail maintenance day. We will be finding a new project

this year. For Daisy Day, our annual weed pulling day, we hope to have a date established early, so more people can plan on coming out. Last year in amongst our weed pulling, we came across a rare species of orchid.

We will continue to have a booth at the Art Affair in Winter Park, and at Fraser River Days. These are our only outreach. We will need volunteers for the booths.

Remember to keep track of your hours. An explanation of which activities are an individual's and which are not along with forms can be found on the website. We are going to move Cabin Hosting from Committee to individual reporting. We ask people to turn in the dates, hours and specify that they are cabin hosting hours, so we can more easily pick up any missing pieces.

Looking forward to another great summer. Hope to see you at the spring meeting

Al Rothenbach

The roundest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.

USFS Report – Mike Ricketts

It has been an interesting winter with little snow and early spring like conditions. But as usual we have been almost too busy to notice the weather. I just returned from the annual wilderness managers meeting in Ft. Collins last week and our region is again leading the way to meeting our goal of getting all our wilderness areas to standard by 2014.

We are also in the midst of a Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic, in case you didn't know. There was a lively discussion surrounding hazard trees. We are entering the stage of the epidemic where the dead trees are beginning to fall, which is cause for great concern if you are an avid hiker, fisherman, mtn. biker, or backpacker to mention just a few activities we enjoy in the National Forest. If you haven't been in the Chainsaw or Zoom Trail area yet this season, expect a big change in the landscape. The Upper Fraser Forest Health Project is nearly done, with just a few units left to harvest this summer in the Fraser Experimental Forest and in the Vasquez Creek area just south of Town of Winter Park.

This stage of the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic has caused us to ramp up our efforts to reducing overhead hazards where ever it makes sense to do

so. You have probably already noticed the campgrounds look quite a bit different as the trees have been removed in those areas. We are also beginning work in dispersed areas where designated camping is located, trees have already been removed in some of those areas as well. Last fall we began replanting large trees in some of the campgrounds to get a jump start on reforestation. But natural regeneration will come with the large openings allowing sun to open the lodgepole pine cones and begin the process of germination and sprouting of new seedlings.

This year we plan to remove hazard trees along our trail and road system. Crews will begin removing hazard trees along these corridors to reduce the overhead hazard to users of the system. Wilderness trails may be an exception to the rule regarding hazard trees, which means users will be expected to maintain a higher degree of wilderness awareness. Wilderness being wild and untrammled will take on an even higher level of "wildness" as users will need to be cautious traveling when it is windy, selecting campsites, and understanding that trails may not be logged out. It will be a long summer for crews doing this task but with the support of the local Adopt-a-Trail program and Grand County Wilderness Group we hope the disruption will be minimal to our forest visitors.

Thank you, Grand County Wilderness Group, for all you do. We are looking forward to another work filled and hopefully fun filled summer.

MIKE RICKETTS USFS

Treasurer's Report 9/27/09 - Marshall Haith

Over \$3000 in our treasury thanks to all your dues and support of tee shirt sales - our primary fund raiser. Sale of maps and ANRA passes bring in additional funds. Dues come up again at the Fall meeting. Meanwhile, watch for wilderness projects that we support. Details at the meeting.

The Doctor called Edna, saying, "I'm sorry to report that your check came back." Edna answered, "So did my arthritis!"

2009 Spring Campout - Susan Ellis

We had a fabulous trip to marvel at the spectacular views in the Black Canyon of the Gunnison. Hiking beside a raging creek, we came to look over the

2000' canyon. The next day we walked the Rim Rock trail with lupines higher than our knees. Some continued on the Oak Flat Trail with bunches of flaming paintbrush flowers. Werner Point was another highlight with great weather all 3 days.

Red Creek group site in the Curicanti Recreation area was the ideal campsite for the 14 of us. We were nestled beside the trees. We enjoyed plenty of good food. One dinner featured a pirate theme and you can imagine that zaniness. We sat around the campfire at night until the Red River, close to our tents, lulled us to sleep. It doesn't get any better than this.

The next campout for the Wilderness Group is set for Kodachrome Park in Utah on April 26-29 however you will have to go on Al's waiting list since so many responded to the early notice of this event.

The butcher backed into the meat grinder and got a little behind in his work.

Hike With The Wild Bunch

Ingrid Anderson and Kristen Lodge will co-ordinate the weekly summer hikes to be held every Thursday in July and August in this piece of Paradise. First we need volunteers to lead their favorite hike. Experience and hiking boots necessary. Call Ingrid at 726-8617 or ingmountain@yahoo.com and be a brave leader with a smile.

Note Volunteer Hours Reporting Change

In an attempt to get more accurate counting of hours at both CABINS we urge you to report your hours INDIVIDUALLY to Honor Ulverling. We often do additional days which are not in the original signup so this will improve our accountability. You all do individual acts of kindness for the forest and hopefully keep track of them but when you are in a GROUP, then the group leader reports the total hours including transportation.

Honor's e mail is hulveling@wildblue.net or call 887-2693. These hours of involvement go towards grants and are important to the Forest Service.



Why couldn't Mozart find his teacher?
Because he was Haydn

Milk Can Not-So-Secret Recipe - Cahallans

Scrub a milk can once you find one. Layer carrots on the bottom, top with new red potatoes, lots of onions, cabbage (cut in wedges) and sausage. Add 2 qts. of water to the milk can. Place on burner. It should boil in 30 minutes. Then simmer 45 minutes. Cook the corn separately-takes only 10 minutes.

Amounts-Fix 1 ½ of everything since the guys eat double. For every 10 people put in 1 head of cabbage. We served 125 in 4 milk cans for wedding rehearsal dinners for all 3 sons. You can cook this in beer but Rollie says that is a waste of beer. The recipe came from the 60's when we were in WY.

Our Wilderness Group is grateful to Rollie and Carol for years of cooking for us at our annual picnic with this deeeelicious dinner. It always attracts a moose at the AA barn.

Join us in August for the annual picnic. Date coming later.

Daisy Day Weed Eradication Set - Beth Collins

You are probably aware that the group works each year to keep non-native plants out of the wilderness around Monarch Lake. The date to take on the invaders is set for Tuesday, July 20th, 9am at Monarch cabin

Snowshoe Hike II – Edna Anderson

On Monday, March 1, 13 members and a guest hiked on snowshoes from Val Moritz/Granby Ranch to the entrance of Snow Mountain Ranch YMCA on the Fraser to Granby Trail. This Trail is in the Ten Mile Creek watershed area. We began by shuttling cars and then proceeded on the almost 2 mile, 250 feet in elevation gain, hike. Along the way we saw four deer leaping through the forest and the plaques on the tunnel under U.S. 40. The plaques included one mentioning the contributions of the GCWG. Afterwards, everyone went to the Buckboard Grill at the YMCA Camp for lunch. A great time was had by all. Thanks go to Jerry and Carolyn Stahl for organizing this event and breaking the trail.

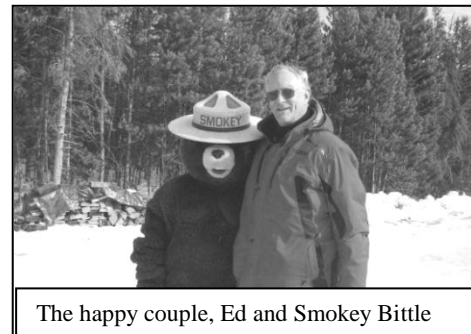


The Stahls point out the plaque at the underpass near the Y entrance commemorating GCWG's contribution.

Smokey Bear Adventures - Ed and Barb Bittle

Two friendly rangers welcomed us to our post in the Fraser Experimental Forest on a wintry Saturday in early December. Guests would soon be arriving to select and cut their own tree AND to have their picture taken with Smokey Bear. Standing around chatting, it was clear that I was "the size" to fit in the Smokey costume. The costume is well made and up to date, complete with the appropriate padding. Just as I finished dressing, people began arriving at 9:30 AM. There was a steady flow until we left at noon. At times we had cars backed up and were very busy. Smokey was in BIG demand for photos with young and old; singles and families. I was amazed at the number of people who make this an annual tradition. Some have been coming 15-20 years! Some people approached eagerly full of the spirit of the holiday and some young ones tentatively, a little leery of that big brown bear.

The joyous mood of the people was in keeping with the holiday. That made it fun to be "Smokey for 1/2 a Day". It was obvious that GCWG volunteers are



The happy couple, Ed and Smokey Bittle

appreciated and we felt some pride at being the volunteers for the tree cutting on the morning of December 5th.

More bear tails

Did you know that Roger Rood, former USFS Wilderness ranger came from Arizona to be Smokey on the following weekend?

One lady reported that she saw a horrible fire at age two but the firemen, realizing the impact on the child, came to her house the next day with a Smokey Bear doll. She said Smokey's soothing stature helped her sleep better every night until she was 23.

The doctor gave Jim six months to live. Jim couldn't pay his bill, so the doctor gave him another six months.

National Public Hands Day – Joan Shaw

Many hands made light, useful work on Public Lands Day, Sept. 27th but first volunteers worked on Friday assembling lunches and goody bags at Sol Vista Base. A beautiful summer day brimming with golden aspen greeted the workers Saturday as they tackled six projects predetermined by the USFS and BLM. Carolyn Stahl worked on Gore Canyon along with Jerry and Mike Braddy. They hauled large rocks up a steep embankment and rebuilt a washout on the trail. Carolyn said “I enjoyed it immensely.”

Judy and Gary Stanfill helped plant 3000 lodgepole pine trees in the Greenridge campground. Judy said she was impressed with the organization and participation and added “It was all in the hands of the Lord.”

Meanwhile the Shaws filled in at the area that needed extra workers. They were a bit reluctant to join since it was an ATV area. Miles Miller efficiently led the group of 16 in building buck and rail fences out of dead beetle attacked trees to keep the machines out of the forest. That made it worthwhile. The group built 25 fence units at this Stillwater Pass area. Everyone, especially Joan, was thrilled when a beautiful moose strolled through even as the chain saws were screaming and the mallets were pounding 12 inch super nails.

Back at the ranch a delicious supper was provided along with music and door prizes with hearty thanks to all 217 participants, merchants and food suppliers. At least 14 GCWG members happily contributed that day. Join them next year.

Easy To Host A Forest Cabin

Training for greeting and hosting at the 2 cabins in the Wilderness will be as follows led by Toni Wujek. Monarch Cabin June 9 and Junco Cabin July 10. Meet on the site at 10AM and learn how to handle just about any question from the public, sell ANRA passes or maps, suggest nearby trails, prohibit snowmobiles, register for a permit and welcome them to the Wilderness. Call Toni and tell her you will be there - 887-9042

Next time you are at Monarch Cabin, see the new photos of the town of Monarch, 1904 Box factory ,

log jam, KaRose lodge and the railroad tracks. Susan Ellis, our capable historian, compiled it.

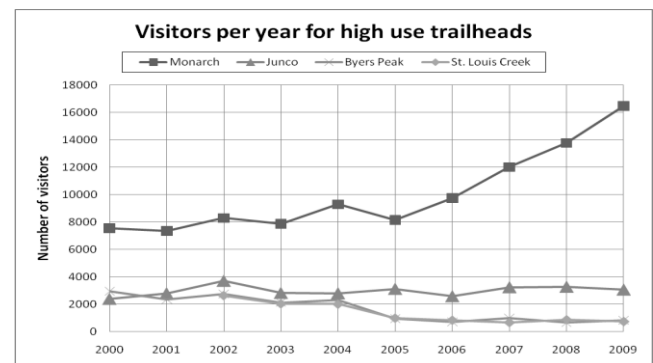
Sign ups for hosting will be arranged at the Spring Meeting under the expert guidance of Dr, Marshall Haith. If you cannot be there, go to the website after the meeting. Marshall recently returned from 2 winter nights sleeping in the Junco Cabin and reported no visitors.

WELCOME BACK to Jeanine Elsner who will be on duty at Monarch Friday through Mondays. Volunteers from our group are needed on Wednesday and Thursday and for emergencies. Junco will have hosts only on weekends but you are welcome to visit anytime since your presence makes a difference.

Why isn't phonetics spelled with an F?

Trailhead Registration Report – Roger Shaw

2009 was the tenth year in which GCWG has maintained and reported data from the area's trailhead registration boxes. Is that cause for a party or what?? At least it gives us a good look at the trends. A couple of graphs tell the story.

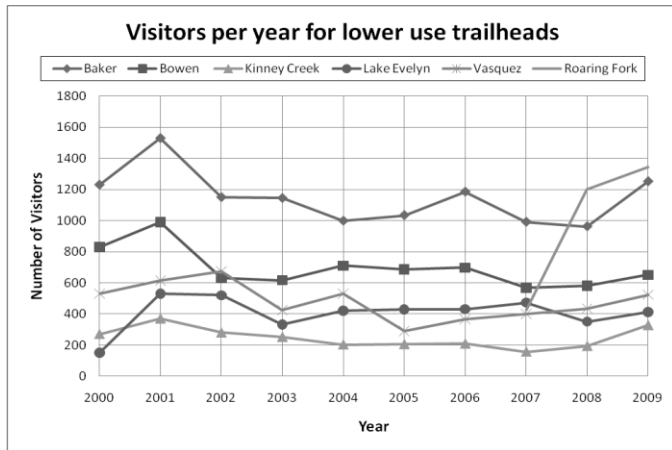


Graph I

The first shows the number of visitors signing in at the more popular trailheads. Monarch Lake continues to attract more and more visitors while the others are pretty steady in their popularity. Monarch has been on a steady growth curve of 2000 more visitors per year for the last 4 years!

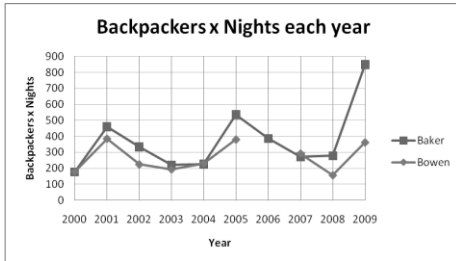
Byers Peak and St. Louis Lake trails, originally among the more popular, have suffered (or benefitted, depending on your point of view) from the major setbacks of their trailheads in 2005.

The lower use trails shown in Graph II did not change much but all showed a modest up-tick within this past year.



Graph II

Baker, with the largest increase, was featured in Backpacker magazine in early 2009 as the entry point for the Baker – Bowen loop trail. A look at the history as we have it of backpacking from this trailhead is shown in Graph III. With backpackers spending an average of 2.5 nights, the back-packers



Graph III

seem to account for all of the increase. Bowen trailhead, as the exit point, did not see the same surge.

Thanks to the hardworking volunteers who maintain the boxes, collect and analyze the sheets and report them. These are the Bernards, H. Clarks, S. Ellis, J. Elsener, the Lees, the Powers, the Stahls and the Turnbills. Thank you, Thank you!

Did You Know?

Total land in Grand County is 1869 square miles
 Total private land is 383,104 acres of which 20% is agricultural.
 Non-agricultural private land is 12% of total.
 Government owned land is 67%.
 This means that Grand County’s population lives on little more than 12 percent.
LET’S TAKE GOOD CARE OF OUR PART!

A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.

Shirts And Vests For Sale

INVEST in a royal blue wilderness vest for changing weather conditions. Only \$35. Forest green Wilderness polo shirts are \$22 and the great sweatshirts are \$24. You must have a long sleeved blue tee shirt for \$19 or short sleeved one for \$17. All have our logo on them and you can wear one proudly to proclaim your allegiance to our woodlands and trails. This is our primary fundraiser for our activities and all can be purchased at the Spring meeting from Joyce Clair, the super manager. Phone her at 887-9097

COMING SOON- Baseball caps in 2 colors with our Wilderness Logo on them. Perfect for this summers hiking, golfing or snoozing. More information at the Spring meeting.

Need Firewood—No Joke

Get a permit from the USFS office in Granby for only \$24 for 2 cords. Already cut in 2-4 foot lengths and ready for our cool evenings or would you rather do it yourself???????

Where Does This Newsletter Go???

Using your addresses from the fall meeting, here is the report:

Fraser - 22	Winter Park - 9
Grand Lake - 8	Front Range - 7
Granby - 6	Tabernash - 6
Hot Sulphur - 3	Kremmling - 1
Colorado Springs - 1	

Host A Trail

Most tourists are here during the weekend so that is the best time for you to volunteer as a host on the trail. Even if you only go a short way or set up a camp chair, your presence in your blue shirt with its Wilderness logo, will be a opportunity for strangers to ask questions.

If you have never done this before, you are in for some eye and ear openers. You see people wearing flip flops on a major ascent, others ask where to see a bear, baby strollers bouncing around a piece of Monarch Lake and folks asking if they can go to Cascade Falls and back in time for lunch in Fraser.

Tari Jamison, Trail Hosting Chairperson, will be glad to know when and where you plan to go. 726-2372 or tarajim@hotmail.com

Pat was in the bar bragging that he'd just finished a jigsaw puzzle in only 2 months.

Bartender? What is so great about that?

Pat replied "The box said 2 to 4 years"

White Deer Dazzle Us

The annual white deer (white elephant) party was another romp. Ingrid Anderson and Toni Wujek hosted this event after a delicious chili supper. The so called gift exchange was animated especially over a metal bull with swinging parts. Other favorites were the poodle purse made of pearls and the expensive wine bottle that was actually a candle in its holder.

Some of these "gifts" were actually taken home but the leftovers were all rewrapped and given to brave Marian Barry. She opened one every day to add to her amusement. We heard her say "It sure helped divert my attention from my health problems." We hope those particular white deer helped with the cure.



Junco cabin on March 16

Birds Flock To Kristen's First Outing -Kristen Lodge

ON January 3rd, I had the pleasure of riding and sighting birds with two professional birders, Susie and Doug Buttery. We participated in the Annual Audubon bird count along with 37 other volunteers including 14 from our Wilderness Group. Our assigned route was County Road 60 and Legacy Park which gave me a wonderful chance to learn the winter birds of Grand County. We stopped at meadows, bird feeders, and areas of trees both green and red.

The Christmas Bird Count has been an annual event for more than a 100 years around the world. The data collected is the "longest-running wildlife census to assess the health of bird populations — and to help guide conservation action." (www.Audubon.org)

During the bird count, we saw ravens, stellar jays, mountain chickadees, black-capped chickadees, a woodpecker, and white-breasted nuthatch; all resident birds. We also counted rosy finches, a migratory bird. All told, we encountered 10 different species.

Brock McCormick, a wildlife biologist with the U.S. Forest Service, organized the bird count. He told me of other migratory birds found in the county: northern shrike and rough-legged hawk. Summer migrant birds in Grand County include hummingbirds, hawks, and songbirds.

Brock says that the bird count measures the local ecosystem health as our environment changes due to development, beetle kill, logging, and recreation.

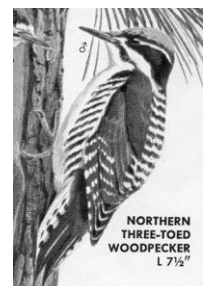
I felt like a scientist for a day; watching these birds through binoculars while Doug and Susie named them. After they dropped me off at my car, I immediately bought a bird feeder. Within two days, I could name the black-capped chickadees visiting my feeder. I can't wait for next year's bird count and contributing to what the Audubon Society calls "citizen science".

I also still need constant reminders to slow down, look, and listen. Birding is a great way to stay in the moment. When I told Brad I bought a bird feeder he said, "Welcome to the bird nerd world."

Brock sends thanks to all who volunteered to spot, count and tally the 2010 Christmas Bird Count. Grand County had 1725 individual birds, and 36 species with an abundance of waterfowl on Jan 2, 2010. Call him at the USFS 887-4100 for any birding info.

On what trail are you likely to find a three toed woodpecker? Ask the Binkleys or the Bartholomews.

Picture courtesy of the Golden Field Guide "Birds of North America". The topknot for the male only is yellow.



Opportunities Galore!

Because every member cares about wild places with wild people and animals in Grand County and intends to help preserve them, now is the time to make choices for summer involvement. All one needs to do is set aside the time and GO FOR IT. NO ONE WILL CALL, it is up to each of us to get out there and make a difference. (see the list of chairpeople to call with this newsletter)

Choose as many as you can handle.

- Host one day at Junco and/or Monarch cabin after brief training or link up with a “pro”
- Open up and clean either cabin to start the season
- Hike the wilderness trails ON WEEKENDS and report via website or USFS
- Adopt a registration box and retrieve the reports
- Take digital photographs for our bulletin boards, newsletter and historian
- Help construct signage
- Work on trail day once a year with the group
- Pay my \$15 dues
- Wear my wilderness tee shirt more often
- Staff the booth at the Art Affair for 2 hours
- Help with kids trail at Fraser River Days
- Consider backpacking
- Uproot noxious weeds at Monarch lake- 1 day
- Record and report my volunteer hours
- Update trailhead bulletin boards
- Distribute our “business” cards
- Contribute to this newsletter
- Assist the forest service whenever needed via internet call
- Plan on working National Public Lands Day Sept. 25th
- Purchase shirts AND vests
- Keep informed via our website
- BE PROUD TO BE OF SERVICE

Our group only meets twice a year, dues are low, no major fundraising and it is an ACTIVE group thanks to you.

Do something “FOR WILDNESS AND MAKE THE MOUNTAINS GLAD” says John Muir

Why is abbreviation such a long word?

Mark You Calendar

ART AFFAIR-JULY 24-25

FRASER RIVER DAYS- EARLY AUGUST

Both events will have a Wilderness Booth and will need volunteers to greet the public, pass out information and sell our vivid blue shirts. Call Joyce Clair and say “Yes.”



Fun in the snow January 28, 2010

More Hands Needed- Jim Clair

Jim is looking for male or female hands to work on putting up trailhead signs and registration boxes this summer. More details at the Spring

meeting but call him if this is your way of supporting the wilderness. 887-9097

No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.

Plans for Trail Work Day – Jim Moat

It seems likely that our good old Columbine Lake trail will need work this year since we concentrated on the Cascade Falls bridge last year. Our work day will likely be a weekday in mid to late July so that we can brush up clear to the top. Watch for it.

What Is Your Favorite Trail? - Why???

- ❖ Beth Collins-Berthoud pass to MT. FLORA with expansive views and rugged mountains. The feeling that the best is yet to come.
- ❖ Jim Magill-BYERS PEAK-terrain variations, mountain goats and view of our house
- ❖ Janette Benson-The winter trail to Junco cabin starting at the last houses and the sign “end of winter maintenance”. Crossing the ice of Meadow Creek reservoir with Roger and Marshall, strikingly beautiful views - and I'm grateful no one fell through.
- ❖ Doris Klein-BIG MEADOW,RMNP-wild-flowers and RTE 40 to Ian's Bakery

- ❖ Steve and Joan Boyle-BOWEN LAKE-great views of Longs Peak, Grand Lake and Shadow Mtn plus we can take our dogs
- ❖ Ann Thompson- ST. LOUIS LAKE- ablaze with wildflowers
- ❖ Ingrid and Barton Phillips-Oh, that trail around Monarch Lake
- ❖ Mary England-JIMS CREEK-variety of travel, great in snow, dogs too
- ❖ Sue Haith-CASCADE TRAIL with really wild wildflowers
- ❖ Kristen Lodge-VAQUEZ PASS TO PEAK-River runs through it, 3 mile warmup to trailhead and the area above treeline.
- ❖ Delores Storer-MT IDA all 54 times- marmots, pikas, deer, elk and big horn sheep, summit view of MT FLORA up and down
- ❖ Clint Roberts- PARKVIEW MT.- easy access, few people, excellent views
- ❖ Charlotte Lucas- MONARCH- its, easy, beautiful and perfect for guests
- ❖ Dick Lucas- COLUMBINE LAKE- magnificent scenary, good fishing
- ❖ Harry Kottcamp-COLUMBINE CREEK TRAIL-RMNP-OR ST. Louis Creek trail-Bowen Gulch for incredible flowers in early August
- ❖ Roger Bartholomew-CASCADE FALLS-RMNP-trail follows river after falls, cool, scenic, one can walk forever
- ❖ Marsha Bartholomew- BOWEN BAKER TO GRAND DITCH- clear water in the ditch, great views, gradual ups
- ❖ Mary Ann Groswald-MONARCH LAKE- I enjoy the lake, flowers, wildlife
- ❖ Stephen Lee-ROARING FORK- it really roars and is wild
- ❖ Joan Shaw- MONARCH LAKE- at 4PM-moose, no tourists, variety, rocks, river, lake, streams, wildflowers, fisherman, cozy cabin, ideal mtn. setting
- ❖ Jim Clair- ST Louis Divide to ST LOUIS LAKE
- ❖ Joyce Clair- Blue Ridge to BOWEN LAKE
- ❖ Marshall Haith- COLUMBINE LAKE-falls, snow shelf on Mt. Neva, Perry Primrose on the little island
- ❖ Janet Swanby- MT IDA- not exceedingly difficult, vista, flowers, deer, ptarmigon, marmots, elk, bighorn sheep
- ❖ Al Rothenbach- CARIBOU PASS-feel of the crowd going to Columbine Lake and then solitude-ahhhhh.
- ❖ Toni Wujek-CARIBOU PASS
- ❖ Mary Huba- COLORADO RIVER Trail RMNP-diversity, beautiful meadows, river scenes, history, fairly flat and easy on hips and knees
- ❖ George Miller- COLORADO RIVER -forested, strem. Meadow, mushrooms, elk, beaver dams. And historical bits if you know where to look
- ❖ Carolyn Stahl- COLUMBINE LAKE-within my ability, breathtaking at the lake, I can visualize it with my eyes closed
- ❖ Jerry Stahl- CRATER LAKE-hike is demanding with incredible views as the payoff
- ❖ Mary Hunter-ST. LOUIS LAKE -creekside, flowers, often goats
- ❖ Duane Hunter-GREEN MT to Granite Falls which are unique to Grand County, moose hangout
- ❖ Sue Perkins-COLUMBINE LAKE-only 6 miles, nice drive, Mt. Neva in the background or “The Crater”, a 1000’ climb on Specimen Mountain. (sheep)
- ❖ Roger Shaw-TRAIL WITH NO TRAIL-The anticipation of what’s over the next rise is invigorating
- ❖ Jean Tidball-COLUMBINE LAKE- Reasonable length, variety of scenery – high meadow, rock cliffs, columbine, virgin forest, alpine lake – the Works – with some challenge but only 3 miles.
- ❖ Pat Berman-MT FLORA- Diversity of the flowers in early July , large elk herd, view of 5 fourteeners, no crowds at 13,132. One can look down at their feet and see tiny flowers blooming and then look up at all the majesty that surrounds them.



**Look familiar? -
It won't be long!**